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the program should be funded with proceeds from the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement. I certainly agree. As you know, the program was originally funded with \$21 million at \$7 million a year for three years, in LB 1436, which was passed in 2000. I can give you a chart in a moment that will relate as to how that all worked out. Last year, the funds at the end of three years were terminated. But there were \$405,000 of General Funds that was made available to the program in LB 285A because of a change in the tobacco wholesale discount rate in LB 572. In order for that funding to continue, it must be included or...into the HHS budget each and every year. This year, we have put those dollars into the budget through the appropriations package. What this amendment would do would be to take and make that into a permanent allocation, so we wouldn't have to go through this appropriation process every year. Now what this amounts to is that every year we get...a check is written to the state from the Tobacco Settlement Fund. And through that process, we would extract immediately, once the check comes to the state, \$2.5 million to fund this continued tobacco program which has been very, very successful in our state. It would not injure in any way the continued funding of our LB 692 dollars, the \$50 million that we are expending for health care, all for health care. And I've said on this floor that I think it's probably one of the greatest bills that we've passed in a decade, in that we have ensured that we will have \$50 million a year into the foreseeable future for health care purposes, all from the tobacco settlement dollars. However, that original settlement, which was agreed to by a large number of attorney generals across this nation, was to be used for tobacco prevention and control. And when we were funding, at \$7 million a year--still the CDC says we should have been funding at \$13.5 million a year--but through that funding, we saw significant reduction in teenage smoking particularly; also in smoking cessation. And so without a doubt it's a program that has worked. And if we completely ignore the fact that we're getting tobacco settlement dollars, which was initially for prevention and control, and not using any of it for prevention and control, I think that that is not a proper use of those dollars that we come in. Like I said, we've gone to the Investment Office. They have produced sheets that say that we can continue this funding for a number of years, matter of fact